

# THE GREEN WIRE

SENATOR TIMOTHY P. GREEN - DISTRICT 13

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## **Taxpayers Deserve to Know that Public Officials and Candidates have Paid Their Taxes**

JEFFERSON CITY – A St. Louis County Democrat wants to ensure that the people making the laws in Jefferson City are making their tax bills right first, and he has added an amendment to that effect onto the ethics legislation being considered by the Missouri Senate.

“The recent media reports of kick-back schemes and money laundering has tainted this legislature,” said Sen. Timothy Green (D-Spanish Lake). “I can’t control perceptions based on suspicious consulting relationships and quid pro quo money-for-votes schemes, but I can at least try to make sure that all legislators pay the taxes they owe before they seek election or re-election.”

Sen. Green calls his amendment to SB 1254 the Elected Official Anti-Tax Evasion Act. It would disqualify potential candidates and current officials seeking re-election from running for office if they had any delinquent local and state taxes, including, but not limited to, income, personal, real estate, and/or business taxes. Candidates would be required to sign an affidavit with the Missouri Department of Revenue declaring under the penalty of perjury that they owe no taxes.

“We are Missourians first and legislators second,” Sen. Green said. “We expect our fellow citizens to pay their taxes on time, so we must demand of ourselves that we do the same. It is a privilege to serve our state; we should avoid like death any appearance of wrongdoing.”

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